

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A surgical instrument, comprising: a handle, an elongated probe connected to the handle and having a terminus distal to the handle; at least one electrode including an electrode surface positioned on the terminus so that a line from  
5 a geometric center of the electrode surface and substantially perpendicular to the electrode surface intersects at an angle a longitudinal axis formed by the elongated probe; and a conductor for attaching the at least one electrode to the handle.

2. The instrument of Claim 1, the elongated probe further comprising an elongated probe member having proximal and distal extremities, a handle connected  
10 to the proximal extremity, and an electrode carried by the distal extremity, the probe member including a shaft having proximal and distal ends and a distal opening, the electrode including a flat perforated plate and a cap, the perforated plate being fixed to the distal end of the shaft and partially covering the distal opening, the a cap enclosing the perforated plate and a portion of the distal end of the shaft.

15 3. The apparatus of Claim 2 wherein the plate is affixed to the distal end by epoxy.

4. The apparatus of Claim 3 further comprising a thermal couple extending through the shaft and the perforated plate, the thermal couple including a terminus located adjacent the cap.

20 5. The apparatus of Claim 4 wherein the terminus of the thermal couple is embedded in the epoxy between the perforated plate and the cap.

25 6. An apparatus for electrosurgical treatment of a body comprising an elongated probe member having proximal and distal extremities, a handle connected to the proximal extremity and an electrode carried by the distal extremity, the probe member including a shaft having proximal and distal ends and a distal opening, the

electrode including a flat plate and a cap, the plate being fixed to the distal end of the shaft and at least partially covering the distal opening, the a cap enclosing the plate and a portion of the distal end of the shaft.

5           7.       The apparatus of Claim 6 wherein the plate is affixed to the distal end by epoxy.

          8.       The apparatus of Claim 7 further comprising a thermal couple extending through the shaft and the plate, the thermal couple including a terminus located adjacent the cap.

10          9.       The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the terminus of the thermal couple is embedded in the epoxy between the plate and the cap.

          10.      The apparatus of Claim 6 wherein said electrode is a radio frequency electrode.

          11.      The apparatus of Claim 6 wherein the plate is perforated.